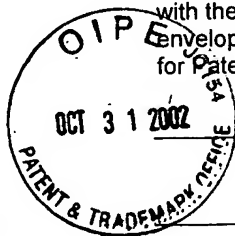


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on



October 28, 2002
Date of Deposit

Steven P. Shurtz, Reg. No. 31,424
Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

Steven P. Shurtz
Signature

10/28/02
Date of Signature

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11/6/02
J. Butth
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PATENT MAIL ROOM

Our Case No.: 396/352

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Antonio Chiga

Serial No.: 10/071,865

Filing Date: February 8, 2002

For: FILTER FOR FLUIDS, ESPECIALLY
FUELS

Examiner: Not Assigned

Group Art Unit No.: 1723

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

US PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME
1,235,438	7/31/1917	H. W. Chynoweth
2,381,949	8/14/1945	A. M. Goodloe et al.
3,826,372	7/30/1974	Bell
4,077,887	3/7/1978	Langvik
4,159,951	7/3/1979	Davis
4,312,753	1/26/1982	Bell
4,420,396	12/13/1983	Yamamoto et al.
4,561,977	12/31/1985	Sasaki
4,617,121	10/14/1986	Yokoyama
4,618,422	10/21/1986	Sasaki et al.
4,743,370	5/10/1988	Mizusawa
4,772,044	9/20/1988	Booher
4,783,260	11/8/1988	Kurihara
4,851,118	7/25/1989	Kurihara
4,874,510	10/17/1989	Akira et al.
4,961,850	10/9/1990	Combest
5,049,271	9/17/1991	Cain
5,055,187	10/08/1991	Ito et al.
5,084,166	1/28/1992	Shiraga et al.
5,169,531	12/8/1992	Shiraga et al.
5,174,841	12/29/1992	Combest
5,547,568	8/20/1996	Sasaki
5,795,468	8/18/1998	Reising et al.
5,928,507	7/27/1999	Chiga

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY
EP 0 369 039 A1	5/23/1990	EPO
EP 0 400 170 A1	12/5/1990	EPO
EP 0 475 610 B1	3/08/1992	EPO
EP 0 542 547 B1	5/19/1993	EPO
EP 0 901 571 B1	3/22/2000	EPO
DE 814 362	9/20/1951	Germany
DE 825 712 C	8/19/1954	Germany
DE 26 58 358 C3	6/29/1978	Germany
DE 34 08 520 A1	9/06/1984	Germany
DE 39 14938 C1	10/11/1990	Germany
DE 41 02 474 A1	8/06/1992	Germany
DE 295 18 501 U1	2/01/1996	Germany

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY
JP 62 41962	7/24/1987	Japan
WO 97/46800	12/11/1997	WIPO
WO 00/03784	1/27/2000	WIPO

OTHER ART REFERENCES

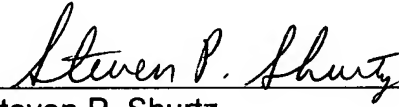
Guibet, Jean-Claude, "REPLACEMENT FUELS: DIRECTIONS AND RESEARCH IN FRENCH", XX FISITA CONGRESS", 1984, pp. 2154-2161 original and translation in English.
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Most of the references are in English, or an English language translation or abstract has been provided. Published German Patent Application DE 34 08 520 A1 is believed to be equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 4,561,977. Gebrauchmuster DE 295 18 501 U1 describes a filter in a fuel pump inlet. German Patent DE 39 14938 relates to a fuel tank filter having a plastic supporting body that supports filtration material and having a pump connection socket positioned on the exterior of the filter, among other things. German Patent DE 925 712 relates to a small carry-on filtering device, in which the filter element 10 may be pivoted with respect to a housing.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these materials, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing information and listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Steven P. Shurtz", is written over a horizontal line.

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Registration No. 31,424
Attorney for Applicant

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